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Tri-Town Times

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Two Additional Staff Proposed for Hampstead School District

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The first School Board budget session was smooth sailing until Assistant Superintendent Winfried Feneberg talked about the staffing side and recommended the board approve hiring a Media Specialist and restoring the Hampstead Central School Assistant Principal position.

School Board member Natalie Gallo, a former school librarian, has opposed this in the past and said the library committee, of which she was a member, had not recommended this. However, Feneberg pointed out the district is not in compliance without a Media Generalist or Media Specialist and has gotten by for a number of years by sharing the Timberlane Regional

School District's Media Generalist. When that person retired, Hampstead hired her as a consultant at a 10 percent time level.

Feneberg said the absence of an assistant principal at Central School has caused considerable strain on administrators, and he is concerned about the resulting levels of teacher supervision, student services and oversight. The assistant principal resigned to take a new job during the summer, and the board decided against hiring for that position.

"If we're serious about providing a high quality education, appropriate supervision is necessary and this is considered a necessary position," Feneberg said.

School Board member Jim Stewart said he could live with these additions as long as they were staff neu-

tral – i.e., if other positions were eliminated.

Feneberg responded only by noting that the final decision is up to the board.

The relatively stable student populations at both schools means maintaining current staffing levels. But with Common Core Standards on the horizon, it is necessary to purchase updated math books and workbooks to be able to address the changes required. In addition, as technology continues to have a bigger impact at all grade levels, it is necessary to upgrade technology hardware and software to meet the needs on the increased use of electronic devices in all curriculum areas, he said.

The probable cost of the math books and workbook upgrade for Central School

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Chester Seeks Regulation on Arsenic in Wells for New Homes

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – The town is looking into codifying the building department's role in inspecting new wells serving new private homes.

At the board of selectmen's Oct. 18 meeting, building inspector/code enforcement officer Thom Roy presented a plan that would require water testing and homeowner notification if there are issues with the water.

Roy noted that because there isn't a formal set of state or federal regulations for inspecting new private wells, what building inspectors deem acceptable for well standards can be all over the map. A standard exists for public wells.

Roy uses the building and plumbing codes' defini-

tion for potable water and seeks to make sure wells meet that. Chester's requirements are listed on the town's website, but Roy conceded that because there isn't a town regulation, enforcement can be difficult if a builder doesn't want to comply.

"So I work in a voluntary fashion with builders and get standards presented to me. It actually comes quite easily because the banks require it anyway," said Roy.

While Roy said most builders are willing to comply with the standard, some voluntarily having their wells tested before being asked, a developer has recently been fighting the department's rules. The well in question tested five times above the state Department of Environ-

mental Services (DES) standard for arsenic, said Roy.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and DES have a standard for arsenic of 10 parts per billion, reduced from 50 parts per billion in 2006. According to the EPA, "Human exposure to arsenic can cause both short and long term health effects. Short or acute effects can occur within hours or days of exposure. Long or chronic effects occur over many years. Long term exposure to arsenic has been linked to cancer of the bladder, lungs, skin, kidneys, nasal passages, liver and prostate. Short term exposure to high doses of arsenic can cause other adverse health effects, but such effects are unlikely to occur from U.S. public water sup-

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PUMPKIN WARS

Chester Cub Scout dens battled each other in a pumpkin decorating contest Friday night at Chester Academy during their Halloween meeting. Members also participated in a last-man-standing balloon stomp and a costume parade. Pictured are members of Den 4 who won the "Weirdest Pumpkin" prize.

Photo by Chris Paul

Sandown Loses Chief, Mentor, Friend in Irving Bassett

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – There aren't many people in Sandown who were more respected and admired than Irving Bassett, 71, a man who spent his life in service to his neighbors and family. To many, Bassett and his family typify what is best about New Hampshire, rural life and Sandown.

While friends and family are reeling from Bassett's death on Oct. 13, the town

also lost a friend and supporter - a man who served most of his life on the fire department, was chief for more than two decades, gave his time and money to keeping cemeteries in their best shape and who, at a moment's notice would drop everything to help a neighbor in need.

According to family and friends, Bassett was a true New Englander, not someone who just lived in New Hampshire, but someone who typified it. Many joked

about his New Hampshire twang, something he'd show off when interviewed at fire scenes. They described him as someone who was "crusty" on the outside but soft hearted underneath. And he was a man you could trust.

Bassett had long fought myelofibrosis, but when he died from complications of that disease many were shocked, having no idea that the last couple of years were difficult on him. In

continued on page 8

Voters Could See Two Warrant Articles to Fund Police Station

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – A warrant article for a new police station will be on the 2013 ballot, but the form of payment remains in question.

The Police Building Committee came before the Board of Selectmen Monday night seeking input, support, and direction for one of two committee-proposed building payment options: a bond issue or a Capital Reserve Fund. What they got was a different set of options.

Police Building Committee Chairman Steve Londrigan asked the board which financing option it would support. He explained that the Capital Reserve Fund would take multiple years but requires only a 50 percent majority vote and would add roughly \$50 per

year to the tax burden on an average Hampstead property valued at \$260,000. The bond route would be the same as in past years, and would cost property owners roughly the same amount on their taxes, but requires a super-majority to pass.

Selectman Chairman Sean Murphy said he was opposed to the Capital Reserve because it takes too long and the need is immediate, and over the years, costs and interest rates would continue to rise. His personal preference is a bond.

Board member Priscilla Lindquist agreed with Murphy in opposing the Capital Reserve, which the third selectman, Rick Hartung, is pushing for.

Murphy made a motion to give the building committee the directive to put in two warrant articles: one

for a bond issue to finance the station, and the second a “one and done” approach, to raise the total amount. Londrigan said that raising the entire amount would add about \$400 to the tax burden for a property valued at \$260,000.

The board approved the motion 2 to 1, with Hartung opposing. Murphy said should both articles get voter approval, the one with the greatest majority of voters would prevail. The only problem is how that would be worded, as bond articles have to follow a strict form. Londrigan asked the board to contact Town Counsel and/or the Local Government Center to word the articles to suit Murphy’s

directive.

With no clear decision by the selectmen on the favored method, the committee will ultimately have to select a financing proposal.

Londrigan emphasized that the same size, location and cost estimate as last year is what will be proposed for the 2013 ballot, whether it be in one or two warrant articles.

In other business Monday night:

- Julia Forbes chastised the board for Tax Map inaccuracies again, two years after she first pointed them out and demanded corrections be made.

- Hampstead’s Emergency Operations Plan has

been updated and reviewed by the board and will be forwarded to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval. A public hearing, with no public comments, was held on the town’s Hazardous Mitigation Plan.

- Selectmen’s Administrative Assistant Sally Theriault, after examining bids from three utility wholesalers, recommended the town switch from White Columns to Freedom Logistics (Resident Power) because had the town gone with that company last year, it would have saved more than three times what it did with White Columns. The board voted 2 to 1 to accept her recommendation, with

Lindquist opposed because Freedom Logistics uses a monthly rate rather than a fixed rate.

- Ed Lanpher submitted a letter asking the board to request a Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) rehearing of the request of David Valente for a variance allowing a commercial building to be within 35 feet of the front setback, where 100 feet is required. The ZBA had approved the request.

The board tabled Lanpher’s request until members could review the minutes of the ZBA meeting but agreed to make a decision within the 30-day appeal period that closes before the next meeting.

Schools

continued from page 1

is estimated at \$50,000, although Curriculum Director Doris Buco said a decision has not been made on which of several new math books to choose.

The technology upgrade, introduced by Technology Director Lori Collins, is \$50,000 for everything requested. But she pointed out that if all elements of the technology budget and technology buried in various curriculum areas are totaled, her budget is in the neighborhood of \$169,000.

The Central School

budget increases all have to do with preparing for Common Core Standards. Principal Dillard Collins said he is waiting for the New England School Development Council (NESDEC) student population predictions to add to his research to determine whether he will need to add a fifth third-grade classroom, and he is hoping the prediction from last year of 90-plus kindergarten students is reduced.

Patti Grassbaugh, Principal of Hampstead Middle School, said her budget is down and that during her years at the school, her budget has been reduced from \$233,000 to \$169,000,

a 30 percent reduction, even as she has been able to add several sports programs, art programs, a Math Club and provide the needed transportation for them. She anticipates no change in staffing, and plans to replace a copier that is at the end of its life, and purchase two timpani for the music department to replace ones in use for 20 or 25 years.

Budget Committee member Matt Murphy challenged Feneberg on the over-budget amount for regular education tuition and special education tuition, saying these accounted for about \$600,000 of the surplus and he thinks the district could do a much better

job of getting those estimated costs right.

Feneberg said the estimates are based on a predictive model, and board chairwoman Judy Graham reminded Murphy the estimates are being made 18 months out. Feneberg added that within the 2013 budget of \$23,549,872, he and the board have control over only such areas as which repairs to do, what supplies and equipment to purchase, and whatever comes out of the teacher and custodial contract negotiations. This amounts to about 5 to 6 percent of the total budget to find savings and reductions.

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Selectmen to Keep Building Inspector/Code Enforcer Together

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – A selectmen's warrant article to separate the building inspector position from the role of code enforcer will not go before voters at next Town Meeting, according to a decision made by the selectmen at their Oct. 22 meeting.

The board has been split on the issue, postponing a couple of votes because of a 2-2 split.

The positions were unit-

ed through a Town Meeting vote and thus have to be separated through the same process, an amendment to the zoning ordinance. The only person to serve in both positions until this year, Ken Sherwood, resigned after what he said was unfair treatment by the current board. After Sherwood's resignation the board pondered separation.

While selectman Brenda Copp and Jim Devine argued for separation, noting a potential for a conflict of interest because of the

combination, chair Steve Brown, Tom Tombarello and Hans Nicolaisen were fine with the status quo.

In other business:

- The selectmen have decided to contract with Virtual Town Hall to take over web hosting services for Sandown's homepage.

Office assistant Paula Gulla has been doing a lot of the behind-the-scenes research and bid solicitation and presented five price quotes to the board Monday night.

Gulla suggested the

elimination of one of the quotes, seeing that the service would do all of the posting, leaving the town out of that loop. That portion of the service cost \$30 an hour and board members agreed it could add up fast. Another firm was tossed aside for similar reasoning, that maintenance had an hourly price tag that could add up quickly.

Board members unanimously agreed that the \$2,000 per year upkeep for Virtual Town Hall was the most reasonable price, given

its good track record and reviews and the inclusion in that price of maintenance and training.

There is another \$4,000 start-up cost for the service.

Gulla surveyed 10 local towns to find out how they handled website maintenance. Eight of those towns used outside vendors and five of those used Virtual Town Hall.

The prompt to look for an outside vendor was partially due to the town's website manager's leaving her employ with the town.

Gulla took up those responsibilities but conceded that without any formal training, there was only so much she could do.

Noted by Gulla and office manager Lynne Blaisdell was the amount of time currently used for basic web page updates and operational problems with the site.

"I think residents will be so happy. There are so many options we'll be able to offer them. I think it will be a big positive," said Gulla

Enforcement Planned for Derelict Vehicles in Sandown

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN - Under the direction of code enforcement officer Bob Bogosh, the town is looking toward cracking down on properties with too many vehicles out front and back.

Selectman Tom Tombar-

ello, liaison to the building department, alerted the town to the new effort at the board of selectmen's Oct. 22 meeting.

According to Tombarello, Bogosh received a complaint the previous week from a resident wanting to sell their house but who said the state of the neighbor's yard was making that

effort difficult.

Upon inspection of the property, Tombarello noted that the yard in question held eight cars, box trucks and about 10 boats.

"I wouldn't want to live next to it," said Tombarello. "We're not going to allow that in Sandown."

Per the Zoning Ordinance, "There shall be no

outside storage of more than two unregistered and uninspected motor vehicles allowed in any zone (This does not apply to garaged vehicles)."

That yard prompted a more thorough review of the town and plans to clean up yards that aren't in compliance.

"It's not the only one,"

said Tombarello.

How the new effort to enforce regulations already on the books will be carried out was not discussed Monday, but Tombarello sought to let residents know that the matter would be on the front burner in coming weeks.

He suggested that residents donate their unused

cars to charity. It would remove them from the property and provide a tax write off.

The town also has a junkyard ordinance as outlined in Article 2, Part A, Section 10 of the Zoning Ordinance. The measure was passed in 2008 in an effort to prohibit non-public dumps and junkyards.

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Editorial

Have a Safe - and Happy - Halloween

Halloween arrives Wednesday night, a midweek treat for the young, and a fun-filled reminder of years of trick or treating for those of us well past the days of going door to door for candy.

Because for many of us, regardless of age, Halloween is our holiday favorite, a day we look forward to for weeks. For children, there's something that can't be beat about dressing up, heading out after dark and walking up to neighbors' homes, and filling a bag with free candy and other treats. The day is not about horror, it's about fun.

We can expect police to be out in force Wednesday, as the little ghosts and goblins, witches and princesses, devils and zombies - lot of zombies - and Supermen parade along local streets. And it means that our usual midweek activities - shopping or heading home from a tiring day at work - can put children at risk as they go about their rounds.

So we take this opportunity to remind everyone to drive especially carefully on Halloween, both during the day and night, and to pay close attention to pedestrians. And we remind parents that children's costumes should feature light colors or reflective tape so they can be seen in the early darkness that the season

brings, and to make sure young children travel in groups, under adult supervision, with everyone carrying flashlights or glow sticks.

The New Hampshire State Police offer the following tips to make Halloween safe as well as spooky:

Keep costumes short to prevent trips and falls.

Use make-up instead of a mask, so as not to obscure vision.

Instruct children to stop only at familiar homes where the outside lights are on.

Tell children not to enter the homes or cars of strangers.

Remind children not to eat any of their treats until they return home.

Keeping safety - and common sense - in the forefront, and focusing on having fun on what we hope will be a crisp and clear fall night - is after all, the stuff of good memories.

There's something special - and very New England - about the sight of a lighted pumpkin on the porch in the Halloween dark. Go ahead, don a mask or a witch hat yourself as you prepare to answer the door.

And if you want to get especially spooked, just remember what happened a year ago, when trick-or-treating was postponed while we shoveled out from an early and damaging snowstorm.

Letters

Truth and Lies

To the editor:

Mitt Romney and two of his classmates grabbed a feminine young man with long blond hair, held him on the ground and cut his hair off. When asked about the incident recently, Romney said, with that sneaky smile, "I don't recall that."

Two of his classmates said that they wish that they had never participated in that event and will never forget it. I think Romney lied.

Obama may be struggling, but I believe that he tells the truth.

Robert D. McEachern
Granite Village
Hampstead

Tombarello for Commissioner

To the editor:

I have known and worked with Mr. Tom Tombarello for a number of years now, to my advantage.

In my opinion Mr. Tombarello is a very upstanding, honest and hard working individual that is an asset to our town of Sandown, N.H. We feel lucky to have him working for our best interest.

Tom has devoted his life to serving people, starting as an Essex County Sheriff's Deputy for 13 years, a Sandown Selectmen in his third term, having served on the Planning Board in New Hampshire and on the Conservation Commission in Haverhill, Mass. He is also a Master Electrician Mass./N.H. for 30 years.

Tom has been a small business owner for 20 years now so he knows the hard work and commitment it takes for a small business to survive. He is also a current member of the Sandown Republican Party.

Tom is often seen around town or at ballparks with two of his youngest three children, Molly (his

daughter) and Jake (his son), and his wife, Marykate, of 17 years, because one of his greatest assets is being a very devoted family man.

I also feel it is time to have ideas with new blood introduced to our office of County Commissioner. I know Mr. Tombarello is the man for that job.

Please take a minute on Nov. 6 when you enter the voting booth and consider Mr. Tombarello for your vote.

I do not think you will regret it.

Thank you.
Brenda L. Copp
Selectmen
Sandown

Candidate's Views

To the editor:

Dear Fellow Residents of Hampstead and Kingston:

I am respectfully asking for your vote for State Representative in the Election on Tuesday, Nov. 6.

No one has it easy today in these tough economic times, especially the small business owners and the working people of New Hampshire. We deserve and need a new message in Concord to support businesses, create and sustain jobs for our residents. I want to be that new voice and spread that message of sustaining business and job growth to strengthen our economy and ease the burdens we all face.

My wife, Tami, and I have owned and run Story Book Station Day School in Kingston for seven years; and we had been able to create jobs so that others can provide for their families. In addition, I am also a full-time firefighter for the Town of Exeter and I also serve as a Justice of the Peace.

I have served my community in various func-

tions, volunteering as a Kingston firefighter, Kingston Municipal Budget Committee (six years) and Sandown Regional School Board (three years). While on these committees I had a perfect attendance record.

As your State Representative I promise that I will maintain that same diligence in attending Committee and Session Meetings in Concord. The voices of the citizens of Hampstead and Kingston cannot be heard if their State Representatives are not present when matters affecting our taxes and jobs are being discussed and voted upon.

For those of you who have not met me personally, I apologize for not going to each and every one of your houses and introducing myself; but, just like you, I am "out there" earning a living, working every day to support my family. I welcome the opportunity to meet every one of you, my fellow citizens of Hampstead and Kingston; and I will make it a point as your State Representative to hold "coffee hours" where each of you can meet with me to discuss the issues and concerns which are important to you. In the meantime, if you would like to ask me about an issue or tell me about your concerns, please feel free to e-mail me at kevinstjames@comcast.net or to call me at 642-3671.

As your State Representative, I will break up the "politics as usual" approach that exists; I will bring a new voice from Hampstead and Kingston to Concord. We must hold our state government fiscally responsible for its actions and I will do so. We also need to ensure that our children are properly educated. Our state will not recover economically without sufficiently and equally funding the education of our future

Again, friends and neigh-

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The Tri-Town Times is a weekly publication. It is mailed to every home in the towns of Chester, Hampstead and Sandown free of charge.

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Building Officials Hired by Sandown Selectmen

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN – The board of selectmen has decided to move both the acting building inspector/code enforcement officer and acting electrical inspector into permanent positions.

The board announced the decision at the end of its Oct. 15 meeting, following a non-public discussion.

Bob Bogosh had been acting as the assistant building inspector and code enforcement officer under Ken Sherwood, but took over the acting position following Sherwood's resignation.

Selectman Tom Tombarello had been serving as the assistant electrical inspector and then as the acting inspector.

The board received

about 30 responses after soliciting for all three positions in a single advertisement. After reviewing the applicants the board decided the best thing for the town was to continue on with the people who have been doing the job and are familiar with the work in Sandown.

Tombarello recused himself from the vote on his own position.

Prior to his resignation, Sherwood charged Tombarello with wanting his job, an accusation to which Tombarello responded, "I've got five jobs. I don't need six. If you're going to go there, it's a waste of my time and your time."

Tombarello served as assistant electrical inspector at the time.

Bogosh will remain as the acting health officer and

septic inspector, as the board has made no formal decisions on those positions, also previously held by Sherwood.

In a related action that same night, the board is looking at raising the costs associated with building permits after hearing from its building officials that Sandown isn't in line with surrounding towns.

Bogosh met with the board after having, on their direction, investigated surrounding towns' permit costs.

Bogosh explained that based on his own experience and with the hard numbers from surrounding towns, Sandown was on the low end. He suggested increasing not only the basic permit fee, but also including a calculation that would add to that fee

according to the square footage of the project, a common practice in the area.

While numbers weren't emphasized during Monday's discussion, the selectmen all agreed that it was time to increase the costs. Selectmen's office manager Lynne Blaisdell pointed out that current costs weren't covering the town's expenses, and added that the current practice wasn't standardized and offered too much inconsistency.

Chair Steve Brown said that while he didn't want to put an additional burden on the homeowner, he also had to make sure the costs were fair from the town's side of things.

Tombarello concurred with Bogosh's findings and noted that costs were also too low on the electrical

inspection end.

The board directed Bogosh to work with Tombarello and plumbing inspector Gary Paradis to come up with a fair fee schedule and bring it back to them for further review.

In other business:

The board met with Michael Sullivan of Michael Sullivan Carpentry to discuss a recent bid for the creation of a handicapped accessible bathroom upstairs in Town Hall. Michael Sullivan Construction came in with the low bid at \$26,395, but it's a number still about \$7,000 over what the town appropriated - \$19,700 - for the project via warrant article.

Brown asked if there were any way the town could defray the cost of the project by doing some work in house, but Sullivan said

that was doubtful. Sullivan noted the logistics of doing such work and how it would likely be slowed if the contractor had to start and stop on certain sections.

Brown also asked about pricing, should the town wait on the project, but Sullivan said there was little in the project that would be affected by inflation.

The board did not decide on how to move forward with the work. One option is to put the project on hold and write another warrant article to ask the town for the difference.

Brown noted how important the project was so that people didn't have to leave the building, then walk down Main Street to be able to get to the building's first floor bathroom.

Letters

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bors, fellow citizens in Hampstead and Kingston, I humbly request your vote on Tuesday, Nov. 6, for State Representative.

Kevin P. St. James
Kingston
Candidate for State Representative
Rockingham District 13

Speak for Yourself

To the editor:
At the Sept. 25 Hampstead school board meeting, Natalie Gallo stated, "I just want to say that I am repre-

senting the people on Social Security."

I would like to clarify and inform her that I am not begging her or anybody else to "do something" about the school. Rather, I am proud to live in a town that regards education as being of the highest priority, and I'm very much in support of Hampstead's great school system.

Mrs. Gallo, please do not generalize and assume that all people in a certain demographic are all asking for the same things, unless you specifically hear from them.

Thank you.
Judith Buchanan
Hampstead

Vote No on Question #1

To the editor:

It's shocking that anyone would think of amending our precious New Hampshire Constitution to take away the right of future voters to make their own decisions about the tax structure that's best for them, as

is proposed in Question #1 on our New Hampshire ballot!

How can anyone who values the motto "Live Free or Die" believe that the freedom to vote for the tax structure we believe is best, whatever that may be, is a freedom that is only for us

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Hampstead Votes in Two State Representative Races

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

Four Republicans and four Democrats are seeking to fill the four seats open to represent Hampstead and Kingston in the House of Representatives for Rockingham District 13. Each was asked the following question: Based on the downshifting of retirement costs to local property taxpayers in the last session, how do you plan to address the state budget and prevent further downshifting? Or will you vote in favor of further downshifting.

Regina Birdsell
Republican

Age: 56

Years in District: 16

Occupation: Contract Recruiter

This question assumes a downshift to the taxpayers in the last session, in fact, it happened during the 2009 budget, which reduced the state contribution from 35 percent to 25 percent. When the 2011 budget was developed, the Finance Committee discovered with an \$800 million deficit, they could not afford to continue the state's portion of the contribution, so the decision was made to have employees' contribution increase rather than placing it on the taxpayers. I will continue to look out for the

taxpayers and vote against any downshifting.

Derrick Moyer
Democrat

Did not respond

Kathleen Pynn
Democrat

Age: 59

Years in District: 7

Occupation: Information Technology Specialist

I oppose legislation to divert the full burden of traditional state costs, such as state and local retirement, to local school districts. The consequences are not in the best interest of New Hampshire, will burden those who can least afford the additional taxes, and stress further public education. A tightening of management, accounting and investment practices, and a mix of stakeholder contributions – employer, employee, union – could offset rising costs. This is a complex issue brewing over many years and it cannot be resolved without working together.

Kevin St. James
Republican

Age: 46

Years in the District: 18

Occupation: Firefighter/Emergency Medical Technician I

First, let me state that I am in the New Hampshire State Retirement System. Under Pension Reform (SB3

and the final HB2 budget), the last Legislature broke two promises: (1) the promise of the State sharing a percentage of the costs of retirement benefits for municipal police, firefighters, and teachers, and (2) changes to the pension system would not downshift higher costs to cities and towns. Both promises were broken and have downshifted millions to the taxpayers. I will not pass any more of the state's obligations onto Towns.

John B. Sedensky
Republican

Age: 77

Years in the District: 33

Occupation: Retired college dean, professor emeritus

I am not in favor of down shifting the pension problem. The pension system needs to be reformed. If we do not reform the New Hampshire pension system, which at present has a \$5 billion unfunded liability, it will go bankrupt! I will continue to work with all parties, taxpayers, unions, employees and actuaries to resolve the problem and save the system.

Andrew Stockwell
Democrat

Did not respond

William Waters
Democrat

Age: 61

Years in District: 7

Occupation: Retired Electrical Engineer/ Manager

I am not in favor of further shifting of costs to local property taxpayers. I would have to fully understand the implications of any budget proposals before embracing them. I would give serious consideration to proposed cost-saving measures while also taking into account possible new revenue sources such as expanded gambling. Expanded gambling will bring thousands of much needed jobs to New Hampshire and will provide a boost to the state and local economies.

Kenneth Weyler
Republican

Age: 71

Years in District: 20

Occupation: Retired Air Force Colonel, retired airline pilot

I have lived in Kingston since 1970. The Democrats downshifted to the towns in the 2009 budget by reducing the amount that the state pays for the employer share from 35 percent to 25 percent. When we Republicans gained control in 2011, we made sure we did not downshift. We did, however, discover that we could not afford to restore the 35 percent because we were busy restoring the school building aid and the catastrophic aid that (Governor John) Lynch left out of the

budget. Our solution to the 25 percent was to shift that to the employee. The employers were putting as much as three times the contribution in the retirement system as the employee, so it seemed to fit with what the citizens were doing, which was paying more than the public employees were. We expect to keep those shares the same and not to have the state share in the municipal payments, just as we do in the present budget. We still give over a billion dollars to the towns and cities in Adequacy, Highway Block Grant Aid, and environmental programs.

One Republican and one Democrat are vying for the single seat in House of Representatives Floterial District 34, which represents Kingston, Hampstead, Plaistow and Atkinson. Each was asked the following question: Based on the downshifting of retirement costs to local property taxpayers in the last session, how do you plan to address the state budget and prevent further downshifting? Or will you vote in favor of further downshifting.

Harlan Cheney
Democrat

Age: 64

Years in District: 14

Occupation: Retired

I am opposed to downshifting more taxes onto homeowners and in-state small businesses. Recently, another \$4.471 million was placed upon the citizens of House District 34. The best way to alleviate this burden is by building a half billion dollar casino in Salem, generating \$53 million in revenue yearly. Next, attract more business to the state by improving the infrastructure and developing a skilled workforce. Lastly, look for opportunities in the current tax structure.

Jeffrey Oligny
Republican

Age: 50

Years in the District: 20

Occupation: Engineering Manager

As a non-expert here, my understanding is that the question's assumption of "downshifting" is unsupported and deserving of further review. In summary, a downshift did occur in the 2009-2010 session and subsequently, the result of poor plan management with unrealistic investment return assumptions has caused increased employee contribution rates. This was required to responsibly address the \$5 billion unfunded pension liability and prevent a defunct fund. This benefit is still superior to most commercial industry plans.

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Question of Gating Boat Launch Goes to Town Lawyer

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Beach Committee remains in favor of moving ahead with gating the beach access in an effort to control boat launching by people who don't have deeded rights to the access, but have decided

to seek a legal opinion first from Town Counsel.

The reason behind gating the boat launch access is the concern of the Beach Committee that people launching boats who are not supposed to be doing so can cause the introduction of invasive, exotic weeds into Sunset Lake, and the fear

that an increased number of boats leads to issues of speed and safety.

There is no provision to check boats and trailers for invasive weeds, and it takes only a tiny piece of milfoil, for example, for it to be introduced into the lake. Once there, it becomes an expensive and destructive issue. At pres-

ent Sunset Lake doesn't have milfoil but down stream, Big Island Pond does. Sunset Lake also doesn't have fanwort but down stream, Shop Pond did, although it was chemically treated this past summer.

The committee does not want to be handing out keys if it gates the access. If the decision to gate the access is

made, the keys will be numbered and those eligible for using a key will have to get it at the Town Clerk's Office and return it.

The Local Government Center's opinion on the question was that it would be all right to gate the right-of-way. However, Select-woman liaison Priscilla

Lindquist recalled that a number of years ago this was considered, and it didn't happen because of a legal opinion opposing it. As a result, the committee decided to seek a legal opinion from Town Counsel.

The committee plans to meet next month to review the legal opinion.

Proposed Timberlane School Budget Up 2.7 Percent

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The School Administrative Unit (SAU) 55 Board, made up of members of the Timberlane and Hampstead School Boards, is reviewing a proposed 2013-14 budget of \$1,335,843, up 2.7 percent over last year's budget of \$1,300,155.

District Business Administrator George Stokinger reviewed the budget for the board, which has until its Oct. 24 meeting to review it.

The Hampstead School District is responsible for 22.50 percent of the budget amount, based on an alloca-

tion determined by equalized valuation and the Average Daily Membership figure. That translates to \$294,778, while the Timberlane School District - representing the towns of Sandown, Plaistow, Atkinson and Danville - would pick up the tab for \$1,015,564 for a total of \$1,310,342, to which is added \$25,000 from fund balance and \$500 in other income.

Administrative salaries account for \$533,193, with newly hired Superintendent Earl Metzler receiving \$138,450 and Assistant Superintendent Winfried Feneberg getting \$115,332.

Stokinger receives \$107,517, Assistant Business Administrator Kathy Smith is paid \$61,172, Human Resources/Office Manager Nancy Danahy receives \$65,111 and Transportation Coordinator Sandra Hodgkins receives \$45,611.

The eight members of the support staff salaries account for \$253,524. The overall increase in the salaries is 2.5 percent.

Salaries account for \$789,217 of the budget and operating expenses for \$546,626. The projected fund balance for this budget year is \$25,000.

Stokinger explained that the New Hampshire Retirement

System cost to the district rose by \$17,600, which accounts for about half of the budget increase. Without the jump in retirement cost, the result of downshifting the cost from the state, the SAU 55 budget increase would have been 1.3 percent.

Hampstead School Board member Jim Stewart questioned the fairness of the allocation distribution, as Hampstead does not have a high school or send students to Timberlane Regional High School in Plaistow, and thus he said the Timberlane District gets more of the

time and resources of the SAU personnel. He was shown that this is not a correct assumption and after listening to the explanation, was satisfied it was a fair allocation distribution. Hampstead high school students are tuitioned to Pinkerton Academy in Derry.



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Bassett

continued from page 1

spite of that, he had continued to show up at fire and rescue scenes as deputy chief, directed work at the cemeteries, tended his garden and made his rounds with his beloved dog, Skyla, until the end of his life.

Family members say Skyla is still waiting for her owner to come home and take her for a ride.

Good friend Nell Keif said it was fitting that on the day he died, the first killing frost arrived. He had not long before taken great pride in buttoning up his garden for the season, a place he tended well, sometimes sitting in his chair on its edge admiring its life. Pay a visit to Irving and Kathy Bassett's home on Main Street – where the mailbox is a bright red fire engine) – and you couldn't leave without a basketful of whatever was in season, from peaches to tomatoes.

Keif said it wasn't until she met Irving and the rest of the Bassett family that Sandown felt like home.

Bassett, the youngest of 16 children, was from a family that long served their community, with siblings learning from their parents

what it means to serve.

Longtime friend and fire department member Jim Devine said Bassett had more leadership ability than any five guys he knew. That kind of leadership and the kind of culture he instilled in the fire department will continue for years, he said. He was a man who found a place for everyone, tending their strengths and making a great department.

Those who served under him have nothing but good to say about their chief, mentor and friend. While some conceded that they got a chewing out now and again, they never took it personally. They knew that he was nearly always right and that he was only doing it to make the department better.

And when he gave them
praise, it meant a lot.

Bassett was not a guy who barked out orders, but whispered them in your ear. Fire chief Bill Tapley said Bassett was always around to point out things he might have missed at a scene or to suggest better ways of doing things.

At one fire scene, Tapley said the crews were running out of water but Bassett, chief at the time, jumped in to dam up a culvert, catch the run off and scoop it back



The antique fire truck that former fire chief Irving Bassett drove through the streets of Sandown was decorated with his coat and leather helmet as a backdrop during his somber and well attended burial.

up to continue the fight.

Tapley said it was a surprise when Bassett asked him to take over leadership of the fire department. Like God asking, he joked.

Many people have recalled Bassett's support and friendship with Harold and Nellie Lovering. Bassett made sure the older couple had everything they needed and would organize work parties

at their home.

Chester's Darrell Quinn recalls working with Bassett at the Lovering home, cutting and stacking firewood for the winter. "The whole family blew me away. All of them have some of that Yankee help each other spirit," said Quinn.

John Colman of Chester added that Bassett was a giving guy, a man who never

stopped going out of his way
to help his neighbors.

Shawn Allen, formerly of the Sandown Fire Department, said Bassett taught a person not only a lot about the fire service, but about how to be a better person. "He's the first thing a lot of people think of when they think about Sandown," said Allen.

Those at the town offices remember his regular trips to chat and pick up a treat for Skyla. “He was really an icon for the town,” said office manager Lynne Blaisdell.

And it was always family first. Many fire department members remember him urging them to go home if they'd been at the department too long.

Irving's daughter and son remember their father as someone on whom they could rely, and who made them feel they were the most important people in the world.

Carroll Bassett fondly remembers working with his brother and other town volunteers to build the fire station. One year a bond for about \$300,000 failed to pass voter muster so Irving led the charge to build it for less money with volunteer help.

The weekend following Town Meeting, Bassett led a group to clear and level the lot. That volunteer effort not only built relationships, but saved the town about \$200,000. Bassett installed the plumbing, and they used the trees on site for the interior woodwork.

"He was very, very capable," said Carroll. "He had all the confidence in the world that things would get done."

Carroll said of his brother, "I have just a few words. He was a very good man."

Bassett was always there for his older sister Eleanor Bassett. Whenever she needed something, he would

show up in his truck, usually with Skyla in the seat next to him. Eleanor said Irving knew his time could be short and so filled up his remaining years.

A couple weeks before his death, they took a long drive together across New Hampshire, checking out old stomping grounds.

When they were growing up, the Bassett home burned down days before Christmas. Eleanor remembered trudging through snow up to her waist with Irving in her arms to a neighbor's house.

He was the youngest of the siblings, but that didn't stop his brothers and sisters from looking up to him and following his direction when they were grown.

Eleanor said she was going to miss her younger brother maybe more than anyone. "He was always there for me," she said. "He touched so many people."

Carroll remembers years ago being woken up in the middle of the night by a call from his brother. A neighbor's basement was flooding, and the woman needed help. The two, along with a couple other helpers, drove to her home to fix the situation.

When asked later about why the woman called Bassett and not the fire department, she said that when she bought her house, the Realtor said that if she ever needed anything, she should look in the phonebook for a Bassett for help.

Bringing tears to many an eye at his funeral was Bassett's last call from Rockingham County dispatch. Amidst radio static the dispatcher called out Bassett's name and number, as had been done countless times before. Three times he was called with no response. He had answered his last call.



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Local Girl Competes on Community Auditions Show

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

Breanne Mullen, a Hampstead resident and Pinkerton Academy senior who is a familiar figure at local venues such as Tupelo Music Hall, The Pasta Loft, Telly's and The Sad Café, is competing on the Community Auditions TV Show.

The show's goal is to showcase New England's musical talent and give everyone a chance to be

heard. The show is hosted by Ramiro of Jammin' 94.5 and will be aired starting Saturday, Oct. 26. The contestant with the most points at each episode will win the "Star of the Day" title and advance to the next show. Points come from votes from watchers.

Mullen is 17, and has been performing as a singer/songwriter/guitarist since she was 13. She has won both the Pinkerton Idol competition and Pinkerton's

Got Talent competition.

Duplicate shows will air Saturdays on WBZ TV, CBS Channel 4 on Oct. 26, and Nov. 2, 9, and 16 at midnight, and Sundays on WSBK TV, Channel 38, Boston, on Oct. 27, and Nov. 3, 10, and 17 at noon.

Listeners go to the online voting page to cast their vote: <http://www.communityauditions.com/vote.html>

Listeners can also follow on You Tube at <http://youtube.com/CommunityAuditions>



Breanne Mullen

tions; Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/commauditions>; Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/CommunityAuditions>.

The finals will take place in December, the dates not yet determined. Friends, family and local area residents are encouraged to watch the show and cast a vote for Breanne.

"Your vote holds the key," said her mother, Linda Mullen.

Chester Transfer Station Celebrates 15-Year Anniversary

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

CHESTER – In its 15 years of operation, the Chester Transfer Station has

recycled 5,365 tons of waste that otherwise would have been dumped in a landfill, and in so doing saved taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. This month

the town celebrates its good work at an open house.

The numbers the station generates are impressive, and that's one of the reasons the spot has become a bit of a

showpiece in the local waste removal world. The station is led by husband and wife Lloyd and Bonnie Healey, and the two are serious about recycling, efficiency and saving the town money. Lloyd, who helped design the station, is on perpetual lookout for ways to improve operations.

According to numbers that Recycling and Solid Waste Committee member Andrew Hadik presented to the board of selectmen, between 1997 and 2012, 14,963 tons of waste made their way through the station, with 9,598 tons placed in a landfill and 5,365 tons, or 35.9 percent, recycled.

The total cost to move that waste totaled \$919,395, \$907,817 of which was for the landfill end of things. The remaining \$11,578 was for the recycling program.

The big recycling effort is in the way of "kitchen recyclables," comprised of glass, plastics, cans, bottles, newspaper, magazines, mixed paper and cardboard. The station also recycles scrap metal, car batteries, motor oil and tires. The total kitchen recyclables tonnage amounted to 4,036 tons in the last 15 years. That's 8,072,000 pounds that otherwise would have been buried in a landfill.

The kitchen recyclables equal \$370,684 in savings, or a net budget savings of 35.1 percent. According to Hadik, the program has ended the year with positive revenues in five of the last six years. In 2011 the net savings plus revenue of the program totaled \$35,410. That's money that otherwise would have come out of the taxpayers' collective pockets.

In 2011, 37.3 percent of the trash that came through the station was recycled.

Hadik noted that whether people are interested in the environment or their wallet, the station benefits, and recycling efforts should be lauded by residents.

To celebrate all of the hard work the station and residents alike have put into their recycling efforts, an open house is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 29, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Town leaders, members of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association and others have been invited. Refreshments and a speech or two are planned.

A new sign is in the works to replace the 10-year anniversary sign. That sign indicates that in its first decade the station recycled 3,704 tons and saved \$165,469.

Rausch Faces Challenge from Reisdorf

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
Tri-Town Times

A Democratic challenger and a Republican incumbent in his first term are seeking the State Senate seat for the district that represents Derry, Hampstead and Windham. Each was asked the following question: What is your position on college students being allowed to vote in New Hampshire, and what would you tweak, if anything, about the Voter ID law?

Jim Rausch
Republican

Age: 65

Occupation: Retired veterinarian

Years in district: Derry resident since 1972.

Rausch said of the Voter ID law in regard to students, "I believe you need to be a U.S. citizen - and a resident of the state in which you vote. If you don't reside in New Hampshire, vote in your home state on an absentee ballot."

Rausch said he voted for the law in the Senate and thinks no major changes are needed. "We just need to make sure people without photo ID are able to get one, and that we don't disenfranchise them," he said.

R. Christopher Reisdorf
Democrat

Age: 61

Occupation: Semi-retired

Years in district: 26 years in Derry

On college students: "I don't have a problem with college students voting in New Hampshire. I'm sure most of them will use the absentee ballots for their own districts." The relatively small size of New Hampshire's schools will help with that, Reisdorf said, pointing out, "I'm from the Midwest - we have schools with 40,000 students."

Voter ID in general: The concept, Reisdorf said, is "not a problem to me." He questions the process, though, saying, "The United States is based on freedom. People are required to carry papers in other countries." He doesn't want to see that here, and said, "Why should we single people out?"



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Seven Compete for Five Seats in House District 4

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

Two Democrats and five Republicans are seeking five seats in the New Hampshire House as representatives from Rockingham County District 4, covering Chester, Sandown and Auburn. Each candidate was asked the following question: Based on the downshifting of retirement costs to local property taxpayers in the last session, how do you plan to address the state budget and prevent further downshifting? Or will you vote in favor of further downshifting? Starting in 2013 the state legislature has decided to cease any state support for the NH Retirement System as passed via House Bill 2, in 2011.

Gene Charron
Republican
Age: 69

Occupation: Retired, 30 years with the Department

of Corrections Rockingham County. Last ten years as Superintendent.

Years in New Hampshire: 50
Town: Chester

Realistically, responding to this question with a limit of 75 words is not an easy task. The New Hampshire Retirement System as of late has created a lot of interest. It does have a history. The most important issue before us is sustainability, pure and simple, for past, current and future membership.

As a Representative, I and 399 Representatives and 24 Senators represent our cities and towns. We are all well aware of the impact of "downshifting" because it affects all of us. Will I vote to further "downshift?" It certainly would not be my intent.

I can say the budget for the past two years was 11 percent smaller than the prior budget. We reduced spending by over \$1.2 billion and general fund by

\$536 million or 18 percent. To cut was no easy task. But living within our means as a State is no different than you and I and our home budgets.

James Devine
Republican

Age: 71

Occupation: Retired

Years in New Hampshire: 34
Town: Sandown

I have not yet seen the law as it's proposed at this time, but I'll make a consideration when I do. I try not to speculate. When it comes to downshifting, the reality is that sometimes the State doesn't have the money and the payments have got to come from someplace else.

Dan Dumaine
Republican

Age: 62

Occupation: Retired law enforcement officer/private investigator

Years in New Hampshire: 62
Town: Auburn

I believe the retirement agreement between the State and those already retired should remain written in granite. I believe an agreement is a contract that we are obligated to honor. On the other hand, agreements can and this one should be changed going forward. I will not be a party of downsizing any retiree's present income or benefits or downshifting this burden onto the backs of local taxpayers.

Joseph Hagan
Republican

Town: Chester

Did not respond

Charlotte Lister
Democrat

Age: 66

Occupation: Retired

Years in New Hampshire: 26
Town: Chester

Many employees of local governments belong to the State Retirement Fund, which is paid for by the

state, local governments and employees. The state has reduced its contribution. This increased the cost to employees and towns. It is always hard to decide how to use limited funds, but some of the state surplus should be used to increase state funding here and in other areas where costs have been shifted to the towns.

Stella Tremblay
Republican

Age: 61

Occupation: Homemaker

Years in New Hampshire: 9
Town: Auburn

Your question is deceitful. No downshifting of retirement costs onto local property taxpayers took place in the last session 2011-12. Downshifting happened in the 2009-10 Session when Democrats ran the Legislature. We as a Conservative Republican legislature will continue our efforts to limit downshifting

as we did in the last session.

Kelly Upham-Torosian
Democrat

Age: 50

Occupation: Central Office Technician, Fairpoint Communications

Years in New Hampshire: Born and raised in New Hampshire

Town: Auburn

I am opposed to the downshifting. Millions were cut from New Hampshire revenue via the cigarette tax reduction of 10 cents per pack last session. This was a clear example of the legislature pandering to outside interests rather than New Hampshire citizens. This cut risked our economic stability and negatively impacted the health and safety of our citizens. When revenue cuts are made, the cost is trickled down to taxpayers. Before revenue is cut, all impact to taxpayers needs to be sensibly evaluated.

Arsenic

continued from page 1

plies that are in compliance with the arsenic standard."

Roy said the young buyers of the home closed on the home before they knew of the well results and don't have the money to install a filter to treat the high arsenic content in the water.

The building department's goal is not to force the developer to install a filter, but to alert the buyer if there's an issue with the well. It is not intended for new wells drilled for exist-

ing homes.

Roy noted that because of New Hampshire's geology, wells tend to test for arsenic.

The regulation presented to the board in part reads, "Prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy for any dwelling supplied by a private well system, the owner shall certify that the water supply is potable and submit to the Building Inspector the water quality test results for the NHDES (New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services) recommended Standard Analysis as stated in

Environmental Fact Sheet 1-2 WDDWGB- 2-1 dated 2011, as may be amended.

"All drinking water wells shall be tested to the DES recommended standard analysis for drinking water. The tested parameters shall meet the acceptable levels for EPA primary safe drinking water. All tested parameters should be disclosed to the purchaser of a property prior to closing. A copy of such evidence of disclosure may be requested by the Building Inspector."

Board members were behind Roy's suggestion, but

discussed the proper way to institute the new rule.

"We're allowing children to drink this and I have a serious problem with that. I don't want to be over-regulating but..." said chair Steph Landau.

"I think this stops short of that," said Roy.

Landau invoked LeClair's Junkyard in the discussion, an area that has caused severe pollution in

wells on Fremont Road. He said that after the long-standing issues there, water testing was an important step. Landau noted that some people moving into town are not informed on where their water is coming from and testing was good for public health.

Selectman Mike Weider asked how many communities had similar rules. Roy responded that all have

some requirements, but he didn't have a definite number for communities with written regulations.

Weider added that it was important to note that the town was not "failing" private wells, because that wasn't possible according to the rules around arsenic, but this would alert people that arsenic was found.

"I don't see the risk of approving it, but we need a public hearing," said selectman Jack Cannon.

The board unanimously decided to hold a public hearing on the matter Nov. 1 during its regularly scheduled meeting.

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State Senate Race Brings New Senator to Chester, Sandown

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

A Republican and Democrat are facing off in November's general election for the chance to serve as state senator for Rockingham County District 23, which covers Brentwood, Chester, Danville, East Kingston, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Kingston and

Sandown. Democrat Carol Croteau and Republican Russell Prescott were both asked the following question: Based on the downshifting of retirement costs to local property taxpayers in the last session, how do you plan to address the state budget and prevent further downshifting? Or will you vote in favor of further downshifting? There was a

75 word limit.

Carol Croteau
Democrat

Town: Kingston

Age: 52

Occupation: Founder Bully Free NH, activist in bully awareness

Years in New Hampshire: 52 years, except for a few away

My opponent's party rushed to reform the retirement system while ignoring actual

opinions and a House-commissioned study indicating their plan would increase, not lower costs. Before I will vote for any bills I will review the impact it will have to property taxpayers.

They made the same poor decision in lowering the cigarette stamp tax, costing New Hampshire over \$20 million in revenue.

We should be investing in job creation, infrastructure and a well-educated workforce.

Russell Prescott

Republican

Town: Kingston

Age: 51

Occupation: Co-owner and vice-president of R.E. Prescott Co.

Years in New Hampshire: 51

We maintained funding

for schools, eliminated the "spiking" provision within the retirement system, saving New Hampshire communities tens of millions of dollars a year, and balanced the budget without tax increases. In the next term, we will evaluate where revenues are, and continue to balance the budget without tax increases.

Two Vie for District 2 County Commission Seat

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

For Rockingham County District 2, Sandown Republican Tom Tombarello is facing off against Atkinson Democrat John Mack for the role of County Commissioner. The commission-

ers make up the Executive Branch of county government, and are responsible for the daily operations in both fiscal and policy matters.

District 2 covers, Atkinson, Brentwood, Epping, Exeter, Fremont, Hampstead, Newfields, Newmar-

ket, Raymond, Salem and Sandown.

Both candidates were given 75 words to answer the following question: What qualities will you look to encourage in the public employees you oversee as County Commissioner?

John E. Mack
Democrat

Age: Not provided

Occupation: Retired. Former Professor of Management, Salem State University, Salem, Mass.

Years in New Hampshire: 8

I will expect employees to re-commit themselves to

our mission: to serve every citizen of the county. I will provide leadership to employees, holding them accountable to carry out their duties with utmost integrity, emphasizing service and demanding ethical, transparent behavior.

In this difficult economy, I will expect all employees to act as good stewards of our tax dollars. I will act within my power to guarantee the continued success of all County employees in meeting their mission to all citizens of Rockingham County.

Tom Tombarello
Republican

Age: 53

Occupation: Master electrician, deputy sheriff in Essex, Mass.

Years in New Hampshire: 10

The county and its employees provide critical services to the residents of Rockingham County. I will look to instill and foster pride in human services, public safety and public administration that each county employee provides daily. The employees of the county are consistently doing more with less resources in a professional manner to ensure the citizens of Rockingham County are getting the best possible service in the most cost-effective manner. I will emphasize that all departments and employees are service based and it is up to each and every employee to display a positive attitude on a daily basis.

District 3 County Commission Seat on Ballot

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
Tri-Town Times

Kevin Coyle of Derry and Bob Davidson of Nottingham are seeking the District 3 seat for Rockingham County Commissioner. The towns covered by this seat are Derry, Londonderry and Chester, as well as

Auburn, Candia, Deerfield, Northwood, Nottingham and Windham.

Kevin Coyle
Republican

Age: 47

Occupation: Londonderry town prosecutor

Years in district: 2

"I don't think out-of-

state students should be allowed to vote in New Hampshire elections unless they plan to take up permanent residence here, establish their residence here and register their cars here," Coyle said. "When I was a law student in North Carolina, I got an absentee ballot and voted in New Hamp-

shire elections. I knew I was planning on coming back here."

The only thing he would change, Coyle said, is to make it easier for people to obtain their photo ID. "If you haven't owned or driven a car for 10 years, you won't have a license," he said.

Bob Davidson
Democrat

Did not respond

Letters

continued from page 5

now, not one to pass on to our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren?

New Hampshire folks I know don't claim to know exactly what the world will be like 100 and more years from now, and what the best tax structure should be then. They see that today's

world is vastly different from the one of our childhood, and the world our great-grandchildren will face will be vastly different from today's world.

Opposing an income tax is not a reason to strip from all future generations the basic right of citizens to vote for the tax structure they believe is best for their time and conditions! I am so thankful that those who wrote both our state and

national Constitutions had more faith in the future generations of Americans than this proposed amendment shows, and I hope that both those for and against an income tax will vote "No" on Question #1 on the November ballot because of a deep belief that our Constitution should protect the rights of citizens, not take their rights away!

Joanne Millsaps
Chester

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TRI-TOWN HAPPENINGS

CHESTER

Halloween Party

The Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., invites children, parents, and goblins to dress up for its Halloween Party on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 10 a.m. to noon for pumpkin and face painting, mask making, and trick-or-treat bag decorating. For more information, contact the library at 887-3404.

Homework Resources

The Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., presents "Homework Resources" on Tuesday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m. Library Director Tim Sheehan will provide a 45-minute overview of the library's collection related to assignments. Handouts will be provided. Individual sessions may also be arranged by appointment. For more information, call the library at 887-3404.

Cabaret Cancelled

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Chester Congregational and Baptist Church must cancel "Tammy Grimes and Friends: A Cabaret Show," scheduled for Friday, Nov. 9, and Saturday, Nov. 10, at Stevens Memorial Hall in Chester. For more information, call the church office at 887-4799 or visit chesterchurchoffice@gsinet.net.

Veterans Day Parade

Chester will hold a Veterans Day parade Nov. 11 at 2 p.m. starting from the town offices to the memori-

al in front of the post office, where there will be a short ceremony.

Book Group

The Chester Public Library Book Group meets every third Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. "Sister" by Rosamund Lupton will be discussed Nov. 13. Extra copies are available for library cardholders to borrow. The library is at 3 Chester St. For more information, call 887-3404.

Democrats

The Chester Democratic Committee will meet Oct. 25 at 6 p.m. at the Chester Public Library. Anyone registered to vote as a Democrat in Chester is welcome.

Supervisors of Checklist

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet Saturday, Oct. 27, from 11 a.m. to noon to register to vote, change name, party or address at Town Hall, 84 Chester St. Residents may also register to vote at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours, with the exception of 10 days before an election. The Presidential Election will take place Nov. 6 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Child Find

The Chester School District will hold Child Find Clinics at Chester Academy on Oct. 29 and on March 25, 2013 from 1 to 3 p.m. The purpose of Child Find is to screen the developmental skills of children

between the ages of 3 to 6 - those not enrolled in first grade - who may be in need of special education services. The screenings are by school personnel and concern motor skills, speech and language, vision, hearing, and pre-academics. Any parent who thinks his or her child may have difficulties or a delay in any of these areas is asked to call 887-3621, ext. 146 to make an appointment. This service is free and open to all Chester residents. All results are confidential.

Appliance Recycling

New Hampshire Lions Camp Pride, along with the Chester Lions, is holding an Electronic and Small and Large Appliances (white goods) Recycling Fundraiser on Saturday, Oct. 27, rain or shine, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at G & P Pizzeria, 692 Raymond Road. Residents from all surrounding towns are welcome. Funds raised will go toward the support of Lions Camp Pride for Special Needs Children. Fees are: computers/full systems, \$20, single components, \$10; telephones, \$1; small appliances (microwaves, printers, fax machines), \$10; washers, dryers, stoves, \$15; refrigerators, water heaters, freezers, air conditioners, \$15; TVs - small, \$15, large, \$20. Local pick-up is available. A tax-deductible receipt will be given. For more information about the Lions or the camp, contact Sam Longbrook at 329-5603 or Jeri Maynard at 883-8565."

Adult Volleyball

Adult Volleyball takes place Wednesdays from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Chester Town Hall multipurpose room, 84 Chester St. The recreational-level program is free, with pickup teams on a gym floor with two nets. For more information, contact Sharon Mulrennan at sharon@chesternhrec.org or call Chester Recreation at 887-5773.

Storytimes

The Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., offers free Storytimes with stories and crafts every Tuesday at 11:15 a.m. with Mrs. Emily. For more information, call 887-3404.

HAMPSTEAD

Bible Club

The Island Pond Bible Club for children in grades 1 through 5 meets Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. at the church, 26 North Salem Road. Snacks, games, music, activities and lesson time are included. Call the church office at 329-5959 for more information, or visit www.islandpondbc.org.

Fall Sports Banquet

The Hampstead Middle School Athletic Club invites all fall athletes (soccer, field hockey and cross country)

to the fall sports awards banquet on Nov. 7 at 6:30 p.m. All athletes are asked to bring individually wrapped snacks to share. A slide show will begin at 6:15 p.m. in the HMS gym.

'Grail Mania'

"Grail Mania" comes to the Hampstead Public Library at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13, thanks to the Friends of the Library and the New Hampshire Humanities Council. Diana Durbin will tell the story of Perceval, a young knight who travels through a strange kingdom and meets King Arthur, Merlin the Wizard, and other famous Arthurian characters. Members of the audience will have the opportunity to portray some of the characters and act out the story as told by Durbin, author of "The Return of King Arthur." The performance is free. Refreshments will follow, and members of the Friends and the audience are invited to stay for the regular monthly meeting of the Friends.

Library Raffle

For the raffle basket for October into November, Ruth Paul, vice president of the Friends of the Hampstead Public Library, will knit an item for the winner. The winner can choose the

item, the yarn, color and pattern. In addition, the basket holds a scarf, knitting needles, yarn, and directions to make another scarf, plus more yarn and a pattern to make a shawl. Raffle tickets are available at the front desk of the library at \$1 each or six for \$5. The winner will be drawn before the start of the "Grail Mania" program on Nov. 13 at the library.

Adult Storytime

Adult Storytime at the Hampstead Public Library takes place Fridays, Nov. 2 and 16, at 10 a.m. This program is designed for developmentally disabled patrons, but all adults are welcome. Attendees will read books and do a craft.

Bridge Club

The new Bridge Club at the Hampstead Public Library is off to a successful start. The club will continue to meet Mondays at 1 p.m. No sign-up is necessary and Hampstead residency is not required. For questions, call the library at 329-6411.

Author Visit

The Hampstead Public Library hosts Hilary Weisman Graham on Thursday, Nov. 8, at 6:30 p.m. She is author of the new young adult novel "Reunited." Piz-

Open Farm Day Nears at Patch Wood Farm in Sandown

MATT RITTENHOUSE
Tri-Town Times

SANDOWN — The Hooves, Paws and Claws 4-H Club is holding its second annual Open Farm Day this month at Patch Wood Farm in Sandown.

The 4-H kids are busy year round with leader Kathleen Dixon, learning about horses, goats, bunnies, dogs and any other animal they take an interest in. On Saturday, Oct. 27, they'll show off some of what they've learned and a lot of the animals they learn it with.

The event runs from noon to 4 p.m.

Patch Wood is a 6-acre farm off Hawkewood Road and is home to a menagerie.

Dixon is a long-time horse trainer, dog breeder and animal lover, and in the last couple of years she's been sharing that knowledge with her 4-Hers.

Farm Day was well attended last year, enjoyed by young and old, and the group is hoping for a similar or better turnout this year. Planned for the event are pony rides, horseshoe and pumpkin painting, raffles, bake sale items, dog training demonstrations, and a petting zoo, said Dixon.

Visitors will also get a chance to see the horse the club recently rescued from an auction in Pennsylvania. The kids have long been raising money and planning for this new edition to their club. They will rehabilitate

the horse in the coming weeks, giving it a second chance at life.

Often the horse auctions are the end of the line for unwanted horses, and they are sold by the pound and sent out of the country for slaughter, but not so for the club's new member.

The farm is also home to many Irish Jack Russell Terriers and a couple of pit bulls and mini Australian shepherds, so along with the large mammals, there are also plenty of canines for kids to try their hands with at care and training, and for visitors to see and pet at Open Farm Day.

Patch Wood is at 42 Hawkewood Road. For more information, visit www.patchwoodfarms.com.



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U17 & U18 Girls 6:30 - 8 p.m.



To be held at Amesbury Sports Park, 12 Hunt Rd., Amesbury MA
There will be a \$20 fee to try out. Each player will receive a Seacoast United Storm T-Shirt.

For more information about the Seacoast United Storm, visit www.seacoastunitedstorm.com

za and ice cream are served. Bring a friend and have a chance to win an autographed copy of "Reunited." For more information, call 329-6411 or email pfalconer@hampstead.lib.nh.us.

Christmas Market

The annual Christmas Market will be open Thursday, Nov. 1; Friday, Nov. 2; Saturday, Nov. 3; Thursday, Nov. 8; Friday, Nov. 9 and Saturday, Nov. 10, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at East Hampstead Union Church, 225 East Main St. (Route 121A), just south of Route 111. Items include handicrafts, angels, holiday decorations, pillows, collectibles, novelties, and gifts for pets. A cookie walk, soup &

sandwich luncheon, baked goods, and refreshments will be available throughout each day. Proceeds benefit the Operating Fund of this historic church. The Sandown Community "Giving Tree" will also be displayed at the fair to help local families make ends meet this holiday season. Help fulfill a child's gift request that has been hung on the tree. Return gifts to the church before Christmas. The church is chair lift accessible. For more information, call 378-0683 or e-mail: ehuc@comcast.net.

Supervisors of Checklist

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the Town Hall on Satur-

day, Oct. 27, between 11 and 11:30 a.m. to register new voters and update the checklist. Residents must bring some type of photo ID. This will be the last day to register with the Supervisors or at the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours. Residents may also register to vote on Election Day, Nov. 6, with a photo ID. Those who do not have an approved photo ID the voter will be permitted to vote after signing a "challenged voter affidavit" form.

Book Discussions

The Third Thursday Book Group of the Hampstead Public Library will discuss "Vie De France: Sharing Food, Friendship,

and a Kitchen in the Loire Valley" by James Haller at 1 p.m. Nov. 15. The group will welcome the author to its meeting. The Non-Fiction Book Group at the library meets at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 19, to discuss "Looking for Alaska" by Peter Jenkins. Copies of both books are available at the library's front desk, and newcomers are always welcome.

Christmas Craft Fair

Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St., hosts its annual Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call Kate at 329-6372.

Trick or Treat

Trick or Treat will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Halloween, Oct. 31.

Adult Volleyball

Adult Volleyball takes place Mondays from 8 to 10 p.m. all year at the Hampstead Memorial Gym on Main St. (Route 121). The recreational-level program is free, with pickup teams on a hardwood floor with one net. For more information, contact Dave Murphy at djohnmurphy1@myfairpoint.net or Chuck Wilson at c_wilson@comcast.net.

Free Movie

The Hampstead Public Library presents director

Tim Burton's homage to the 1960s television show "Dark Shadows" in a free movie to be shown Tuesday, Oct. 30, at 6:30 p.m., starring Johnny Depp.

Mothers' Club Craft Fair

The non-profit Hampstead Mothers' Club's 27th annual Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Hampstead Middle School on School Street, off Route 121. Handmade crafts are offered from over 70 artisans selected by a jury, along with activities for children, a full food menu and a Raffle Table. Admission is free.

continued on page 15

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Hampstead Middle School Gears Up for 'Taste of the Town'

PENNY WILLIAMS
Tri-Town Times

HAMPSTEAD – The Taste of the Town event at Hampstead Middle School has become a community favorite. Each year the Spanish Boosters put on this culinary delight to raise money for the year's eighth

grade trip.

The next trip will be a tour to Spain, scheduled for February 2014. However, Spanish teacher and tour coordinator Carol Randall spends the off year between trips fund raising so that trip costs can be as low as possible.

The primary fund raiser

is the Taste of the Town, set for Monday, Nov. 5, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the Hampstead Middle School cafeteria. Area restaurants and businesses donate food dishes and/or raffle and silent auction items for the event. Cost of the meal is \$4.50 for seniors and children under 10, and \$6.50

for all others. The meal includes a buffet, one beverage and one raffle ticket.

"Proceeds help defray the cost of the educational tour to Spain in February 2014 for the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students who will travel with the EF Educational Tour," Randall said. She noted the trip

begins in Madrid and goes on to Toledo, Segovia, Granada, Seville, Costa del Sol, Gibraltar and Tetouan.

"During the trip the students will get to see the Macaque monkeys on the Rock of Gibraltar, flamenco dancing in the gypsy caves of Granada, sword-making in Toledo, and get the

opportunity to eat Spanish tapas and even spend time on the beautiful beaches of Costa del Sol," Randall said.

In 2011 the Taste of the Town raised about \$5,200 for the group's planned trip, and families visiting the event told Randall they had discovered new places to eat.

Happenings

continued from page 13

Special Education Parents

The Hampstead Special Education Parents Group presents "A Survival Guide for Ordinary Parents of Special Kids" by Gina Gallagher and Patricia Konjoian, authors of "Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid," at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15, at the Hampstead Middle School Library. Parents, school staff and community members are invited to attend. Copies of the book are available to borrow from the front desk of the Hampstead Public Library. For more information, visit www.hampstead-sepg.org or email info@hampsteadsepg.org.

Hoops Tryouts

Tryouts for Hampstead Hoops Basketball will be held at Hampstead Middle School for local students in grades 3 through 8. This is not a school-sponsored event. Fifth and sixth grade boys tryouts are Oct. 25 from 6 to 7 p.m. Seventh and eighth grade boys tryouts are Oct. 25 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. For questions, contact Kim Colbert at mikimco@comcast.net.

SANDOWN

Voter Registration

The Supervisors of the Checklist will meet at Sandown Town Hall, 320 Main St., on Saturday, Oct. 27, from 11 to 11:30 a.m. for additions to and corrections of the checklist. This is the last day to register and make changes before the Presidential Election. New voters may also register at the Town Tax Collector's Office during regular business hours or at the Super-

visors' table on the day of voting with proper identification.

Holiday Greens

The Sandown Mothers Club is holding its 10th annual holiday greens sale. Choose from kissing balls, roping, and wreaths of all sizes. Pre-orders are due by Nov. 16. A limited number of decorated wreaths and kissing balls will also be sold on Dec. 1 at the Santa Sale at Sandown Town Hall. All proceeds benefit the community. Visit www.sandownmothersclub.com to download an order form or contact Trina Morasse at 887-3029 or timandtrina@comcast.net.

Open Farm Day

Patch Wood Farm holds its second annual Open Farm Day, hosted by the Hooves, Paws and Claws 4-H Club on Saturday, Oct. 27, from noon to 4 p.m. The event includes pony rides, horseshoe and pumpkin painting, raffles, a bake sale, dog training demonstrations, a petting zoo, and a

meet and greet with the club's recently rescued horse. The farm is at 42 Hawkewood Road. For more information, visit www.patchwoodfarms.com.

Timberlane Alumni

Timberlane High School is celebrating Homecoming Oct. 26, which is also senior night for the football, cheer, and band programs. Festivities start at 6:30 p.m. at the football field. Timberlane football is looking for football alumni to line the field for the current players; alumni are asked to meet by the field by 6:30 p.m. Game day giveaways, fireworks, and full concessions are planned. Bring a non-perishable item for the Timberlane Football Boosters' food drive to benefit the Holy Angels food pantry; boxes will be at the main gate.

Holiday Auction

Sandown North School hosts a Holiday Auction on Friday, Dec. 7, from 6 to 10 p.m. Numerous opportunities are available for parents to be involved. The next planning meeting is Thursday, Oct. 25,

at 6 p.m. at Sandown Central School. For more information, contact Darci at darcia-nben@yahoo.com or Kara at cheercoachkara@yahoo.com.

Senior Harvest Luncheon

Sandown residents age 60 and older are invited to attend the 17th annual Harvest Luncheon on Saturday, Nov. 3, at the Route 111 Village Square Restaurant in Hampstead. The event features a full turkey dinner with all the fixings and musical entertainment. This event is offered free and is limited to Sandown residents only. A spouse who is not age 60 may accompany you. Requests for special diets and guests other than a spouse cannot be accommodated. Proper identification may be required. Pre-registration is required by Oct. 29. Space is limited and registration may be closed prior to Oct. 29 if the maximum number is reached. No walk-in registrations at the door are accepted. To register, call the recreation office at 887-1872. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m.

Halloween Party

The Sandown Public Library hosts a Halloween Party for preschool through 1st Grade at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, with stories at the library, followed by a costume parade to Town Hall, where the Mothers Club will offer spooky snacks, music, and a craft.

Cribbage & Cards

The Sandown Public Library invites residents to stop in on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and learn how to play cribbage, whist, 45s or gin rummy. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Library Fundraiser

The Friends of the Sandown Public Library will offer an O'Neil Cinemas movie ticket pack now through Oct. 27. The pack has a \$66 value, but will be sold for \$30, and includes four free movie tickets to O'Neil Cinemas; two buy one, get one free movie tickets; a free drink with the purchase of small popcorn; a free small popcorn with the purchase of a small drink; and a scratch and win ticket,

guaranteed winners with prizes ranging from a free concession stand item and free movie tickets, to a year's worth of movie tickets. O'Neil Cinemas are in Londonderry and Epping. Purchase ticket packs at the Sandown Public Library or the Sandown Town-Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, Oct. 20. Tickets are valid through December 2014. Proceeds benefit the Sandown Friends of the Public Library. For more information, call the Library at 887-3428.

Adult Volleyball

Adult Volleyball takes place Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m. (except school vacations) at the Central School gym on Main St. (Route 121A). The recreational-level program is free, with pickup teams on a linoleum floor with one net. For more information, contact Paul Bernier at Pionmet@aol.com.

Story Hours

Busy Bears Story Hour takes place at the Sandown Public Library every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. with Miss Jenn.



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Thursday: 7-8 year olds, 4 - 5:30 p.m. \$115

9-10 year olds, 5:30 - 7 p.m. \$115

Friday: 3-4 year olds, 4 - 4:45 p.m. \$60

For more information about the Seacoast United, visit www.seacoastunited.com/kingston



TOWN OF SANDOWN Planning Board LEGAL NOTICE

The Sandown Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 in the Sandown Town Hall, Route 121A, Sandown, NH regarding the following:

7:15 p.m. - Public Hearing for review of a Lot Line Adjustment and Minor Subdivision Application submitted by Holmes Estate, c/o Arlene Bassett for a two-lot subdivision. The property is shown on Map 18, Lots 2 and 2-2, North Main Street and Royal Range Road.

7:45 p.m. - Public Hearing for review of a Minor Subdivision Application submitted by Albert Lake for a two-lot subdivision. The property is shown on Map 2, Lot 6-4, located at 174 Hampstead Road.

You are invited to attend or you may submit written comments prior to this meeting. If you require personal assistance for audio, visual or other special aid, please contact our office at least 24 hours prior to this meeting.

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